

Message Text

SECRET

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IO - AMB BUFFUM

EA - MR MILLER

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TO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T STATE 253938

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, KS, KN, SN

SUBJECT: KOREA AT 30TH UNGA: LETTER FROM SECRETARY TO
PRIME MINISTER LEE KUAN YEW

1. PLEASE DELIVER FOLLOWING LETTER FROM SECRETARY TO
PRIME MINISTER LEE IMMEDIATELY.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

I VERY MUCH ENJOYED MY RECENT TALK WITH FOREIGN MINISTER
RAJARATNAM IN NEW YORK LAST MONTH. IT WAS A PRODUCTIVE
EXCHANGE ON A VARIETY OF ISSUES. THE FOREIGN MINISTER
HAS PROBABLY TOLD YOU OF OUR DISCUSSION ON KOREA, AND
I WOULD LIKE PERSONALLY TO EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE WE
ATTACH TO THIS ISSUE.

AS YOU KNOW, THERE ARE NOW TWO COMPETING RESOLUTIONS

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BEFORE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, AND DEBATE IS

NOW IN PROGRESS. OUR RESOLUTION PROPOSES THAT THE PARTIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED ENTER INTO NEW ARRANGEMENTS TO REPLACE THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT AND ENSURE PEACE ON THE PENINSULA. WE PROPOSE AS A FIRST STEP THAT WE, THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, NORTH KOREA AND THE CHINESE BEGIN TALKS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE SO THAT WE CAN PROCEED

WITH DISSOLUTION OF THE U.N. COMMAND THE CONCURRENT ESTABLISHMENT OF OTHER ARRANGEMENTS FOR MAINTAINING THE ARMISTICE. IN MY SEPTEMBER 22 SPEECH TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, I ALSO STRESSED OUR WILLINGNESS AND THAT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO SIT DOWN WITH THE OTHER SIDE TO EXPLORE ADDITIONAL MEASURES TO REDUCE TENSIONS ON THE PENINSULA.

THE RESPONSE TO OUR PROPOSALS FROM THE OTHER SIDE HAS BEEN ENTIRELY NEGATIVE. THE NORTH KOREANS AND CHINESE REMAIN TOTALLY COMMITTED TO THEIR DRAFT RESOLUTION, WHICH WOULD HAVE THE EFFECT OF EXCLUDING THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA COMPLETELY FROM PARTICIPATION IN ANY DIALOGUE ON KOREA'S FUTURE. THIS IS AN OBVIOUS THREAT TO THE STABILITY OF THE PENINSULA AND SOMETHING THAT WE SIMPLY CANNOT ACCEPT.

AT THIS POINT, I THINK THE ONLY PRACTICAL WAY WE CAN SEEK TO DRAW THE OTHER SIDE INTO A CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE IS FIRST TO SHOW THEM THEIR RESOLUTION CANNOT WIN IN NEW YORK. WHILE THEIR RESOLUTION MAY SEEM TO HAVE ATTRACTIVE FEATURES ON THE SURFACE, CLOSER ANALYSIS-- ESPECIALLY WHEN TAKEN WITH THE PUBLIC COMMENTS OF ITS SUPPORTERS--REVEALS IT AS AN INFLEXIBLE, PARTISAN APPROACH THAT CAN ONLY FRUSTRATE CHANCES FOR STABILITY ON THE PENINSULA. FOR US (WITH OUR 42,000 TROOPS IN KOREA), THIS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE TO COME BEFORE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THIS YEAR. THAT IS WHY I FEEL IT NECESSARY TO APPROACH YOU DIRECTLY TO URGE SINGAPORE'S PROCEDURAL AND SUBSTANTIVE SUPPORT FOR OUR RESOLUTION AS WELL AS SINGAPORE'S VOTE AGAINST THE ALGERIAN-SPONSORED RESOLUTION ON KOREA SHOULD IT COME TO A VOTE.

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IT HAS BEEN SOME TIME SINCE OUR MEETING IN WASHINGTON LAST MAY, AND I HOPE WE WILL HAVE A CHANCE TO GET TOGETHER AGAIN BEFORE TOO LONG.

WITH BEST REGARDS AND ALL GOOD WISHES,

SINCERELY,

HENRY A. KISSINGER

END TEXT.

KISSINGER

OCT PASS MPI.

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